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Adventures of Tad;

HAPS AND NISHAPS OF A LOST SACHEL.

A Story for Young and Old.

BY FRANK H. CONVERSE.

Author of "PETER ARABIAN," "BLOWN OUT TO SEA," "PALE GRAPES," ETC.

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CHAPTER I.

TAD was near the

close of a blustering

March day, and the

seats about the

big cylinder stove

in the waiting-

room of the Broad

Street station in

the city of Phila-

delphia were in

great demand. One of them was oc-

cupied by Tad Thorne, who, though he

had no business there, was enjoying the

warmth as only a small, fourteen-year-

old boy can do, after being all day in

the city streets crying parlor matches

at three cents per box—two for five.

Tad's enjoyment was tempered by a

little mental worry, as a

matter of course. Nobody is entirely

happy in this world, and as he warmed

himself by the stove, he thought of the

watchful eye on the door of the porter's

room opposite. It was the duty of

that colored functionary to assist

tramps and vagrant boys from the

walking-room, with scant ceremony.

"Last night he said he'd become me if

he caught me here again," mused Tad,

advancing first one patched shoe and

then the other toward the stove, "but

I shouldn't think the corporation would

grudge what little fire it takes to warm

me."

For a time Tad remained in undisturbed

peace. He was constantly coming and going

and no one took particular notice of the

thickly-dressed, pale-faced lad who occa-

sionally stretched his fingers eagerly

toward the glowing coals.

"It's the first time I've been warm

since I left home," he murmured. "I

wish I could hold heat like a hot brick

here!" Tad soliloquized, as with an

involuntary shiver he thought of having

to start out in the chilly air again.

"Is there no other place where you

can go and warm yourself, besides a

walking-room?" asked a tall, aris-

to-crate-looking gentleman, with

iron-gray hair, and a very dignified

manner who occupied the next seat to

the one in which Tad was sitting. He

spoke severely and frowned at Tad, as

though the boy's presence annoyed him.

If his address had been more kindly,

Tad's reply would have been more

respectful. As it was, Tad scowled a

little.

"There's places enough, I suppose—

only they don't happen to 'low boys

who haven't any business here. You

might as well go to the city hall and

ask for a ticket to the city hall."

"I don't want to go to the city hall,"

replied Tad, "but I want to go to the

city hall to see the mayor."

"You don't want to go to the city hall,"

replied the gentleman, "but I want to

go to the city hall to see the mayor."

"I don't want to go to the city hall,"

replied Tad, "but I want to go to the

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"You don't want to go to the city hall,"

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